

A crowd of between 250 and 300 gathered around the "Chuck Wagon" to sample the punch and enjoy visting and western music before the dinner and meeting got under way a little after noon. The meeting was called to order by the president, Kenneth Clark, who asked that we all stand and remain standing until he said we could sit down. First we had a moment of silence in remembrance of deceased members, then the invocation by the Catholic Father, and the pledge of alligence and singing of the National Anthem led by the Juniors. Next Mayor Kitty Ann Long of Las Animas gave an address of welcome.

The immediate past president of the CCA, Vic Hansen of Walden introduced the main speaker Mr. C. W. "Bill" McMillan of Denver, who is the executive Vice President of the American National Cattlemen's Association. Mr. McMil'an stated that the ANCA is setting up a Washington office of which he will run to help lobby for farm legislation. He says that there is much to do on agricultural chemicals and tax laws, capital gains on cattle etc. and that we do need outside money in the cattle industry. He stated that he would like to see beef cattle free of all controls. We are the only industry with import limits on voluntary agreements under a 1964 law which still needs work. He said that there are senators from New York and Connecticut who want the ANCA investigated for urging a 5% voluntary cutback for supply and demand. If you don't do it for you, someone will do it for you--your way or his.

Kenneth Clark introduced the following: Mike Sanstead, Brush, Jr. CCA V.P.; Kay McEndree, Springfield, Jr. CCA Secretary; The State FFA President and Vice President and the State FFA Secretary, Kirk Sniff of Hasty. Also the following members of newspapers and magazines: Mac Jones of the Western Livestock Journal of Denver, Spencer Burtis of the La Junta Tribune Democrat, C. V. Mills of the Arkansas Valley Journal, Charlie Clark of the Bent County Democrat, Fred Andrews of the Lamar Daily News, and Carl Warren of the Pueblo Chieftian.

Clint Jeffers, the Colo. Comm. of Agriculture spoke on the 4 corners commission and the feasibility study for a packing plant in the lower Arkansas Valley and whether we need one or two. He stated that a little money along with request is basic. He also stated that the meat inspection of small packing plants will be funded as in past years as a joint federal state venture.

Chuck McCormack of Holly who is on the 4 corners Comm. stated that the C.A. V. I. has already taken on request for a feasibility study for packing plant and he feels that we should endorse CAVI and make request too.

Ray Blackford of the CCA BEEF Board talked on their feeding experiment where they have 1312 head on feed at Greeley from ranchers all over the state and he feels that in the future they should have tests in various areas of the state.

Beverly Bledsoe of Hugo, the CCA Legislative expert, talked of some of the things that are going on in the state Legislature. He said that House Bill 1053 abolishes the tax commission, and at first he was opposed to it, but now supports it. This bill sets up a state tax administration and one members of this board must be from agriculture ~~XXX~~ and they will advise and assist the county assessors. Bev stated that one question that is still unanswered is "What is Agriculture land?"

Bob Shhafter of Boyero gave a report on the Dual Ballot Box for Bond election. one ballot for property owners and one for non-property owners. He stated that three bonding company attorneys are pushing this bill and he is afraid that this dual ballot box is setting a precedent that we will not be able to stop.

Representative Vincent Grace of La Junta talked on the Land Use Bill and said that is has been watered down so that he didn't think it would bother us now. He also said that there will be controls on the commercial application of Ag. Chemicals.

Representative Forrest Burns, Lamar, spoke on the Land Use Bill and he said this urban vs rural situation is going to get worse before it gets any better and he feels that the rural people need to form a coalition. He said there is a possibility of acquiring a permanent pool at John Martin in the next 6 months and also a very good chance that the state will acquire the Two Buttes Reservoir for the people of this area.

State Senator Kirk Wagner of Las Animas spoke on the pollution bill and said that hopefully agricultural burning is exempt--at present any way.

U. S. Representative ~~XX~~ Frank Evans, of Pueblo stressed the fact that the people of rural areas should work together as their ranks are getting smaller all the time. He felt that Colorado stood a good chance of getting another representative after the new census.

State Patrol Chief, Gilbert Carrel said we had a 13 percent increase in traffic in 1969 over 1968, but still had 14 fewer traffic deaths during the year and he hopes this downward trend will continue. He said he is proud to work with kids like are in the Junior Cattlemen, FFA and 4-H.

Chuck Bradley, of Colorado Springs, who is chairman of the CCA Tax Committee. Reappraisal program under the 1964 law on ability of land to produce. He stated that the 67 and 68 assessments on some lands were 100 to 300 per cent higher. In June at Salida the CCA worked out a grazing formula and started working on farm land formula. He feels that we need to keep assessment on a local level.

Leo Gallagher, La Junta area rancher, gave a report commending Ben Lacy, Bent Co. As.

Next on the program, Eddie Dunlap presented the following with lifetime memberships: Bent County, George McClave; Baca County, Roy Pl Mathews; Prowers County, Floyd Sniff; Otero County, Everett Marshall; and Kiowa County, F. L. Pyles. A brief history of these men is on a separate page.

Mrs. D. J. Schleining of Wiley gave a report on the Southeast Cowbells for the year.

Miss Julie Clark of Kim gave a report of the Jr. Meeting. She said 4 turned back calves and 8 received calves. The officers for the coming year are: President, Rick Schneider of Lamar; Vice President, Karen Clark of Kim, Sec. Treasurer, Jo McEndree of Springfield; Calf Chain Secretary, Connie Herbert of Springfield, Reporter, Gladys Givan of Arlington; Historian, Kimmie Clark of Kim; 1 yr. directors: Francis Dunlap of Eads, Nyla McEndree of Springfield, and advisor, R. J. Nelson.

Kenneth Clark introduced the assessors from our area and thanked them for working with us this past year. Ben Lacy, Zeltus Holcomb, Jack Hall, and Jim Bendorf were present with Wayne Brown of Otero County being absent.

The Resolution Committee with A. P. Brown, Chairman, Clyde McEndree, Jim McMillin, William E. Rose, Eddie Dunlap, and Bob Morrison presented 10 resolutions which were adopted by the meeting:

1. Whereas, the producers of red meat at every level have been concerned about the movement of large supplies through trade channels at fair price levels, and Whereas, imports of foreign meat have threatened at times to add greatly to the supply, Be it resolved that this association go on record as highly commending the work of the American National Cattlemen's Assn. and its Committees on regulating imports. We particularly approve the work of Ex. Vice President W. W. McMillan.
2. We again commend our state CCA officers, Pres. Nate Patton, Executive Vice President, Dave Rice, Jr., the legislative committee and Board of Control for their efforts in ~~the~~ furthering the interests of the industry.

3. We express our appreciation to the City of Las Animas for tis hospitality, to St. Mary's Parish for the use of the school building, to Dan Sniff and his Punch Bowl Committee, and the the Council of Catholic Women for a delicious meal. We also appreciate the publicity provided by the local trade and news medias.
4. The Association deeply regrets the passing in the past year of several long time members and friends of the industry, specifically honorary life members, Dick Klett and Art Dean.
5. We commend the work of local and state CCA committees on land reappraisal, and the cooperation of the Assessors in nearby countis on determining carrying capacity and variations in land values.
6. We support the established principle of preperity ownership as a qualification for voting in elections to establish bonded indebtedness, and urge quick actio to establish these guidelines.
7. We recommed action by our representative at all levels to bring about reconsideration of the Supreme Court deciasion barring prayer in schools. We also urge the re-tention of the works "under God" in the pledge to the flag.
8. We deplor any move for a blanket incr ase in salaries for public official, and favor raises only after close consideration of the work load in each specific case.
9. We consider necessary rural representat on on any agency created to deal with strea m and air pollution.
10. We express our appreciation to President, Kenneth Clar, Secretary Lew Mathews, the Committee Chairmen and director for the time spent in promtoing the industry and transacting association business throughout the year. We appreciate also the cooperation of the Cowbelles and the Junior Cattlemen's Association.

The following resolution was submitted with no recommendation:

Whereas the name, Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Growers Assn. doesn't accurately define the territory in which our membership resides,
Be it resolved that the name of this organization be changed to the Southeast Colorado Cattlemen's Assn.

A motion was made by Nim McEndree to accept the first 10 relolutions, but to table the last one on the name change. Seconded by Joe Autry and motion carried.

Chairman Bill Dawson of the nomiating com ittee presented the following officers and directors for the coming year: President, Eddie Dunlap; 1st Vice Pres. John Smartt; 2nd V.P. Lew Mathews; Sec-Treas. Bill Wooten, and Membership clerk, John Davidson. The directors are as follows: A. P. Brown, Ken Clark, B'rney Davis, J. W. Dawson, William F. Dawson, Edward Dean, Dough Duncan, Lyman Edgar, Charlie Fletcher, Phil Gilbert, John Givan, Joe Hasser, Jerry Keffeler, Jim Loflin, Clyde McEndree, Jim McMillin, Bob Morrison, Bob Mundell, Jack Midkols, Howard Quinby, Wm. E. ose, Tead Russell, D. J. Schleining, and Dan Sniff.

Eddie Dunlap presented Kenny Clark and Lew Mathews with plaques honoring their years' duties as president and secretary-treasurer. Also Dan Sniff presented each with a new western hat and told them to wear them proudly.

Meeting adjourned.

LIFETIME MEMBERS OF BENT-PROWERS HONORED at Annual Meeting, Feb. 21, 1970

Baca County-- Roy P. Mathews Springfield, Colorado

Roy was born in Coolidge, Kansas Dec. 18, 1898 and spent his early boyhood growing up on his father's farm and ranch which was located just south of the Arkansas River from Trail City and which is the M. C. Chuck McCormick ranch today. In 1909 the family moved to a farm south east of Two Buttes which they were developing to irrigate from the Two Buttes Reservoir and when he was old enough, Roy homesteaded a quarter section near his father's. Roy spent his teen years working on the ranch and freighting with a mule team. He hauled wheat to Lamar and coal and supplies back to Two Buttes using two wagons and a four mule hitch.

Today Roy is a prosperous Springfield abstractor and real estate man. Before attaining his present affluence he received his training in various banks in Colorado and California. All this, mind you, despite the fact that he was a high school drop out. He quit high school following his sophomore year, but that wasn't the end of his formal education. Instead he graduated from the Salt City Business College in Hutchinson Kansas where he worked his way through school. After learning to type and keep books he went to work for the first bank to be established in Baca County, the Bank of Baca County in the town of Two Buttes. After leaving the Bank of Baca County, Roy went to work in Springfield as deputy County Clerk and served in this capacity until joining the new First National Bank in Springfield in 1922. He worked in this bank until it merged with the First State Bank in 1924 when he moved to California and worked with the Los Angeles Title and Trust Co. and the First National Bank in Bishop California. Roy was called back to Baca County in 1925 by the serious and terminal illness of his father and has remained here since.

Roy was married to Hazel Lent of Two Buttes in Springfield July 22, 1922. His wife's father, J. C. Lent, was a partner in the Lent and Holeman Grocery and Mercantile in Two Buttes. Roy and Mrs. Mathews have two sons, Lew of Springfield, and Jim, a Lt. Col. in the Air Force stationed in Panama City Fla. The elder Mathews have four grandchildren. Roy has been a lifelong Republican and has served as chairman of the Baca County Republicans for many years. He has steadfastly declined to seek elective office, but has served on several appointive positions. He was a director of the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Growers Assn. for many years and is a past master of the Springfield AF and AM Blue Lodge, is a life member of the Al Kaly Shrine of Pueblo and a member of the Knights Templar and Royal Arch Mason of Lamar.

Bent County---George S. McClave McClave, Colorado

George S. McClave was born in the town that bears his father's name. He has lived in the McClave community continually, residing on this present ranch since 1925.

Following his graduation from Colorado State University in 1923, George began a career of ranching and community service. Rewards of that career can now be seen in his 10,000 acres of land and long record of service achievements.

McClave has served 12 years on the Bent County High School Board, plus several years on the local school board.

He served three years on the Board of Control for the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, and as unprecedented 20 years on the State Board of Agriculture.

Residing on his ranch with his wife, Thelma, McClave continues his ranching and public service. An older son, George Baker McClave, now ranches east of McClave on the original B. T. McClave homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. McClave also have a younger son, John, who is an Extension Agent for Boulder County. He is located in Longmont. They also have two daughters, Mrs. Paul Arther of Littleton, and Mrs. John Colmey of Danville, California and eleven grandchildren.

BENT-PROWERS LIFETIME MEMBERS HONORED Feb. 21, 1970

KIOWA COUNTY--Mr. F. L. Pyles Eads, Colorado

Mr. Pyle was born Feb. 28, 1892 in Ohio and came to Eads, Colorado with his family in 1903. Where his father purchased the Kiowa Co. Press from Frost Liggett, who had founded the Tri-State Daily News. The Pyle boys all learned to set type in this shop.

Mr. Pyle entered the bank in March 1909, as a 17 year old high school graduate doing janitorial jobs and carrying in the coal and hauling out the ashes. Later he worked up to president. He was married in 1915 and he and Mrs. Pyles had two daughters. He is and has been engaged in ranching and farming all of these years, having homesteaded north west of Eads where he rode a horse to work when he started in the banking business

Mr. Pyles is a member of the Methodist Church and belongs to several organizations. He was mayor of Eads for 25 years and on the city council for 10 years.

OTERO COUNTY--Everette Marshall La Junta, Colorado

The blond bear of the Rockies, former world heavyweight wrestling champion has been named to the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame and he is a champion in many other areas. One example, it was once said that He was the hardest training, cleanest living and the best conditioned athlete ever known.

Everette has been of this nature in every thing he has ever done, from his years of distinction in his farming and feeding operation where he fed more than 180,000 head of cattle. One of his most recent activities has been with the Colo. Boys Ranch as one of the founding directors and most active supporter.

PROWERS COUNTY --Floyd Sniff Lamar, Colorado

Floyd was born near Humboldt, Kansas in 1896. His family moved to their homestead on Mud Cree, southeast of C ddoa in 1910. Floyd went to work as a cowboy shortly after the family arrived in Colorado, working of the JJ ranch and for Trostel Brothers. Along with his brother Noel, he added spice to the hard life of the cowboys who worked from his chuck wagon.

He also worked for the Santa Fe railroad as a block tower operator, and developed unique systems of rodent control and train routing for the road. However, the Santa Fe didn't appreciate Floyd's originality, and his association with the world of transportation was terminated. In 1917, Floyd left cattle country and went in the army. He served in France until the Armistice, then returned to ranch.

He went back to the family farm in eastern Kansas to cut fence posts for the ranch and met a young lady who was teaching at the local school, which slowed down the post cutting considerably. Consequently, he later made the pilgrimage from eastern Kansas to Mud Creek with a new bride in a used Model T touring car. Highlight of the trip was a wind and rain storm which stripped the cover off the Model T and brought a pair of soaked newly weds to Mud Creek. After a welcome like this, Viola felt ^{things} thighs could only get better.

The original Sniff Brothers cattle were "Chihuahuas", that had lots of stamina and spirit. Even after many generations of Hereford blood, that spirit would show up as a cow would put a cowboy over, under, or through the fence.

In 1936, Floyd ran for the office of sheriff of Bent County, and like most Republicans in 1936, he was soundly defeated. Local story tellers relate that

after the election, Floyd went before the County Commissioners and requested a permit to carry a gun. When asked why he wanted the Permit, Floyd said, "With no more friends that I have in this county, I want to be able to protect myself".

In the 1930's, Floyd bought each of his children a registered Hereford heifer, and from this beginning, the F. C. Sniff and Son Registered herd was established. Developing bulls strictly for range use, Floyd and son Jack have produced reputation bulls for southeastern Colorado beef herds for 30 years.

After the drought and debt of the 30's, Floyd rode through the ups and downs of the next three decades. He has sold cattle for as little as $1\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ a pound, and as much as 45¢ a pound.

Always afflicted with a spirit of service, Floyd has served on numerous boards and committees, and as a member of Church, service, and fraternal organizations. Always curious about the world about him, Floyd has traveled extensively. He has been on a people to people tour behind the Iron Curtain, and he and Viola have been around the world, with an encore trip to Africa and South America. They have always managed to get out of the country just as the trouble starts, narrowly escaping the Mau-Mau terror in Kenya, the Seuz explosion, and the 10-10 riots in Hong Kong.

Floyd has now disposed of all his land and livestock holding, except for a half-dozen cats. He stays out of mischief by gardening and fishing, and watches with a grin as his children and grand children industriously make the same mistakes that he made in years past.